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STONEHENGE.



## Original Communications.

### THE DRUIDS AND ANCIENT BRITONS.

THE society called the *Druids*, now existing in England, little as its members may resemble that secret but celebrated fraternity from whom they take their name, from time to time awake attention to facts connected with those once omnipotent rulers of their fellow men. All that can be recounted on this subject is read with eager interest. Nor can we wonder at its charm. How striking is the scene which the remains of the Druids must present to the "mind's eye" of the least imaginative! How imposing is that spectacle in which we see our wild forefathers, their bodies scarified by deep incisions, and painted blue, as we learn from Richard of Cirencester was the mode, with their long, matted hair, bearded lip, and wildly glistening eyes, bending before the priests or prophets, who were supposed to be intimately acquainted with the eternal will,

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and, consequently skilled, *par excellence*, to direct and guide all human affairs! Though strikingly impressive, this was no uncommon spectacle. Issuing from their dreary forests, our rude ancestors approached the dread sages whose word alone they believed could wither them, whose wrath could assuredly destroy, with awful reverence, to learn so much of their lore as these fathers of mankind condescended to impart. There the victim offered to appease celestial rage sunk beneath the golden knife, and kings were instructed what course it was permitted them to pursue.

"We learn," says Mr D'Israeli, in his 'Amenities of Literature,' that the Druidical sciences were contained in twenty thousand verses, which were to prompt their perpetual memory. Such traditional science could not be very progressive; what was to be got by rote no disciple would care to consider obsolete, and a century might elapse without furnishing an additional couplet. The Druids, like some

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other institutions of antiquity, by not perpetuating their doctrines, or their secrets, in this primeval state of theology and philosophy, by writing, have effectually concealed their own puerile simplicity. But the monuments of a people remain to perpetuate their character. We are told that the Druids were so wholly devoted to nature that they prohibited the use of any tool in the construction of their rude works; all are unhewn masses, or heaps of stones; such are their cairns and cromleches and corneddes, and that wild architecture whose stones hang on one another, still frowning on the plains of Salisbury. A circle of stones marked the consecrated limits of the Druidical Tribunal; and in the midst a hillock heaped up for the occasion was the judgment-seat. Here, in the open air, in 'eye of light and the face of the sun,' to use the Bardic style, the decrees were pronounced, and the Druids harangued the people."

Stonehenge is the most remarkable relic of Druidism now extant in Great Britain. It is situate on Salisbury Plain, near the Amesbury Road, and consists of two circular and two oval ranges of rough stones, having one common centre. The outer circle is 180 feet in diameter, and originally consisted of 30 upright stones, of which only 17 are still standing upright and perfect. The height of these stones is from 18 to 20 feet, and they are about 3 feet thick, and 6 or 7 feet broad, standing at a distance of about 3 feet apart, jointed by imposts at the top, with tennons fitted to mortices, to keep them in their position. The inner circle is 8 feet from the outer one, and formerly was composed of 40 stones, of which about 19 are still standing. There is a clean walk between the circles of about 300 feet in circumference.

Great differences of opinion prevail respecting this extraordinary ruin, as, indeed, we find existing in reference to every other Druidical remain, in England or elsewhere. According to some authorities, it was erected by Ambrosius Aurelius, the famous British commander, when the Saxons first invaded the island; but that notion could have been entertained only by persons who were wholly ignorant of the religious opinions of that famous hero. Inigo Jones attempted to prove that it was a Danish monument; but the evidences he adduced in support of so strange an assertion are totally unworthy of serious consideration.

Dr Stukely, whose general acquirements entitle his opinions to be received with respect, tells us that it was called by the ancient Britons *Choir-gaur*, which he imagines must have signified the Great Church. It seems, however, that there is no such word as *choir* in the ancient British lan-

guage, and the inference is that the name was applied to this monument by the Romans, and from them transmitted by the natives towards the close of the empire. During the monkish times, it is asserted by some historians that Stonehenge was called *Chorea Gigantum*, or the Giant's Dance; a fanciful interpretation, probably, of the marvellous uses to which it was supposed this enormous structure might have been originally dedicated.

The final result of all the speculations and conjectures that have been hazarded from time to time respecting Stonehenge, is that it must have been a temple of worship; but the mysterious rites performed within its magic bounds are to this day a matter of vague wonder and hopeless investigation. The temple, if such we may call it, is enclosed by a deep trench, nearly 30 feet in breadth, and situated about 100 feet from the outer circle. There are three distinct entrances over the trench, the principal one facing the north-east. There are altogether about 140 stones in this temple, and they are of such gigantic proportions that a variety of wild suppositions have been ventured upon as to the manner in which they were brought here, and placed in their present position. There are no quarries in the neighbourhood of Salisbury Plain, and the ancient inhabitants of Britain are said to have been ignorant of the use of geometrical machines. How then were these enormous blocks conveyed? especially if, as some writers think, they were carried all the way from Ambury, near Marlborough. It must be remembered, however, that stones of as great a magnitude were raised for the building of Solomon's Temple, on Mount Moriah, and if the Easterns were acquainted with geometry, there is no reason to doubt that the inhabitants of the western parts were also acquainted with it, the more particularly as we are justified in concluding that they both derived their knowledge from the same source.

There are great numbers of sepulchres, or barrows, as they are called, in the immediate neighbourhood of the temple, which could not be introduced into the above engraving, extending, as they do, to a considerable distance. These are large heaps of earth shaped in the form of a hill, and from the skeletons that have been discovered in them, together with the warlike instruments and other articles belonging to the slumberers, there is no doubt that these mounds are the graves of an ancient race. In many of them a strange variety of things have been found, such as javelins, trinkets, urns, glass and amber beads, and swords. A most remarkable circumstance, however, connected with them is, that in addition to human bones, the remains of horses, deer, dogs, and other animals have been dis-

covered buried with the ashes of heroes and amazons.

It has been conjectured, from the close vicinity of the barrows to the Temple, that the Druids, like the Christians, thought it was most proper to bury their dead within sight of the spot where they worshipped the Supreme Being.

As we are upon the subject of Druidical remains, it may not be uninteresting to the English reader to subjoin an account of the celebrated stones of Carnac, in Brittany, which form the most conspicuous relics of Druidism now remaining in any part of the world. This wonderful place is an object of universal curiosity to all antiquarians, and ingenious as many of the theories are by which its origin has been endeavoured to be accounted for, no rational motive has yet been assigned for the erection of such strange memorials. Stonehenge sinks into utter insignificance in comparison with Carnac, which is the most vast, as it is beyond all doubt the most inexplicable, of all the Druidical monuments. These stones may be distinctly traced in their windings for upwards of seven miles, and they must have originally extended even much further. They are composed of 11 parallel lines of upright stones, varying in height from 5 to 17 feet, and numbering formerly, at an extravagant computation, at least 10,000. The whole width of the avenues varies from 200 to 350 feet. Of the original quantity, some notion may be formed from the fact that many blocks have been taken away to build the chateaux of Kergouat, Plouharnel, and Du Lac, and that cottages, and even the village of Carnac itself, are still constantly replenished from its stores. The following minute description of the stones of Carnac is translated from the work of M. de la Sauvagère, which is quoted and confirmed by M. Mahé, in his *'Essai sur les Antiquités du Département du Morbihan:'*—

"The stones of Carnac are planted by line, like rows of trees, on 11 parallel lines, which form spaces like streets, built by rule, of which the first, counting from the nearest to the town of Carnac, is 36 feet wide, the second 33 feet, the third 36 feet, the fourth 38 feet, the fifth 30 feet, the sixth 30 feet, the seventh 21 feet, the eighth 22 feet, the ninth 24 feet, and the tenth 12 feet. . . . These stones are set at 18, 20, and 25 feet distance from one another; there are many of them which are not larger than ordinary posts, but to make up for these, we may see others which are of an enormous size, and of 16, 18, and 20 feet high. We cannot look at them but with the greatest astonishment. I have measured some of them, which must weigh more than 24,000 pounds. It is inconceivable what machines they made use of to place them upright, and what is still more

singular, they are almost all arranged in such a manner that the larger sized are above, and the smaller sized below, so that there are many of them supported, as it were, upon a pivot. They are rough, such as they were drawn from the quarry, and it has been managed that those which are flat, or which have some flattened sides, should be turned in line, and made pavements to the streets. . . . There may be seen in the environs many other large stones, planted singly here and there in the fields; sometimes there are many of them near together. They are to be found even in the peninsular of Quiberon, and in the island of Belle-Isle and Groix."

VICTOR HUGO.—This gentleman, who is well known to Europe generally, and we might almost say intimately to the readers of the *'Mirror,'* has been doomed to prove in his own family some of those sorrows which, as an imaginative writer, he knows so well how to picture as incidental to human life. On Monday week M. Pierre Vacquerie, an old captain, and a merchant of Havre, who resided at Villequier, at his property, on the banks of the Seine, having business at Caudebec, resolved to make the little trip by water, and being familiar with the navigation of the river, and the mode of handling boats, took with him in his boat, which had two lug sails, his young son, aged ten years—his nephew, M. C. Vacquerie—and the young wife of the latter, the daughter of M. Victor Hugo, to whom he was not long since married. Hardly half an hour had elapsed when intelligence arrived that a boat had been upset on the opposite bank, called the *Dos d'Ane*. Assistance was instantly despatched, but it arrived only in time to witness the irreparable misfortune that had taken place. The boat was taken aback, and the sheets were imprudently made fast. On her being righted, there were found inside a cannon ball and a large stone, which had been used as ballast, and the dead body of M. Pierre Vacquerie, with the head hanging over the side. The three other persons had disappeared. It was supposed at first that M. C. Vacquerie, being an excellent swimmer, had, whilst endeavouring to save his wife and relations, been carried further; but, as nothing appeared on the surface of the water, a net was thrown in, and the ground dragged. The first time it was pulled up, it contained the lifeless body of the unfortunate lady. Madame Victor Hugo received on the next morning at Havre, where she had been residing some time with her two other children, the news of the calamity. She set out immediately for Paris. M. Victor Hugo, it is believed, is at La Rochelle.

### NOTES OF A TOUR IN FINLAND AND RUSSIA.—PART III.

(For the Mirror.)

It became in due course the business of a day to visit the various government manufactories near St Petersburg. Those of glass and porcelain appear to be in a flourishing condition, and are stated to yield a considerable annual return, whilst in tastefulness of design the latter is not materially inferior to the royal manufactories of Dresden or Vienna. The Imperial manufactories of cotton, linen, and playing-cards at Alexandrowski, employ 3,000 persons, and are admirably managed by an English gentleman (General Wilson). All the latest English improvements in machinery are here immediately adopted, and there is perhaps nowhere else to be seen, unless indeed in America, an equally neat and respectable looking body of operatives, as those of this cotton-mill. Every part of the manufactory was exhibited to us with the utmost politeness, and one of the Scotch assistant managers informed me that the manufactory of cards yields a considerable revenue to government for the benefit of the foundling hospital of St Petersburg, but that the cotton manufacture has scarcely yet been rendered lucrative. Last year, it appears that three-fourths of the cotton twist manufactured in Russia was imported from Great Britain; but such exertions are now making to establish spinning mills that this state of things cannot continue much longer; and, as nearly every finished article of British manufacture is already excluded by enormous duties, how England is hereafter to pay for the tallow, flax, and hemp of Russia, is a problem for time and political economy to solve. Nine out of every ten vessels which come to Russia from England arrive in ballast, while every vessel from that country to Great Britain is fully laden; and the Russian nobles will perhaps discover in due time, that by creating manufactories among themselves they are sacrificing that great outlet for their produce, the English market. Nations can only permanently continue to trade with each other on the principle of an exchange of productions either direct or indirect, and Russia has already contrived to throw the balance of trade greatly against England, and under her present laws that unfavourable balance can hardly fail yearly to increase. To hope for voluntary liberality from the Russian government in matters of commerce would be a vain expectation, and the commercial diplomacy of England has of late years been much neglected, and the landowners' monopolies of corn and timber are thus retorted on our manufacturers. It is therefore now necessary for England

to endeavour either to negotiate, or to procure those articles she at present receives from Russia from such countries as are willing to act on the principle of an exchange of commodities. New Zealand and Canada, as well as the Austrian districts of the Danube, might probably be made to supply her with flax and hemp, while South America might yield an increased supply of tallow, and it could not be objected to on the strictest principles of national justice to grant such advantages to those countries in respect to duties as might make England more independent of the productions of Russia.

The commercial marine of Russia appears to have increased since Mr Huskisson's treaty of reciprocity (if it may be so called) in a smaller proportion than that of any of the other countries bordering on the Baltic—which, considering that she possesses all the material for ship building equally cheap, and at half their English value, is rather to be wondered at. Still the shipping of Russia is increasing in consequence of that treaty, while the high-priced vessels of England have been nearly driven out of the Baltic by the unequal competition, and Great Britain has much to fear from any increase of the shipping of Russia which may render her navy, in the event of war, a rival to our own. It is not among the rustic slaves which the nobility of Russia contribute to the imperial navy, exercised as they are only in summer excursions in the Baltic and the Black Sea, that rivals to our British sailors will be found; but a commercial marine, permanently employed in more distant navigation, might nevertheless furnish her with the elements of a really formidable navy.

The Foundling Hospital is one of the most interesting establishments of St Petersburg, and the excellence of its arrangements are apparently such that it would seem to be exempt from many of those evils which similar establishments elsewhere have been proved to possess. The only evidence required for the reception of the children is, that they should neither be of slave parents nor of the military class. The nurses seemed to be healthy countrywomen, and lest any of them should prove so deficient in the milk of human kindness as to neglect their young charges, their preservation is made matter of pecuniary interest to them, and a good proof of their real kindness may be found in the fact of our having passed through several apartments full of children only a few weeks old, in many of which not a cry was heard, and in the only one where infant music met our ear it did not equal what is frequently heard in a family nursery.

In the various class rooms we found

about a thousand girls, from seven years of age up to seventeen; and we afterwards saw them all dine together, having previously chanted a grace in a very pretty manner. These girls are variously instructed according to the degree of talent they display, the less gifted being trained with a view to becoming servants and milliners; while those who evince greater aptitude are educated as governesses. We saw about thirty of these at a separate table, several of whom had already received appointments at salaries varying from 800 to 1,200 rubles a year, and one of the directresses informed us that many of them go as far as three or four thousand versts from St Petersburg, at which distances, their music, drawing, languages, &c., render them quite the accomplished ladies of these remote districts.

The infants on reaching the age of a few months are sent into the country until the period for education arrives, and in this way the mortality is much less than it might otherwise be. The boys are taught at a separate institution, care being in their case likewise taken to instruct each according to the measure of talent displayed.

The Empress takes an especial interest in the education of the females, frequently visiting the institution, and bestowing on it many marks of her favour.

The German lady who became our principal conductress through the establishment, fortunately spoke excellent English, and her presence was hailed in every ward with those silent looks of pleasure, which conveyed a stronger assurance of her benevolence than any words could have done.

The church of St Alexander Nievskoi is the fashionable place of interment in St Petersburg. Many of the principal families have a space allotted them for this purpose within its walls, and these spots are universally ornamented by pictures representing either Christ or the Virgin, and before these, a lamp is kept continually burning.

St Alexander Nievskoi is almost the idol saint of Russia, and the circumstance of his having been as great a warrior as a saint adds much to the honour which his sanctity obtains for him. The Emperor, as the head of the Greek church, possesses the power to canonize, and some years since was induced to exercise this sacred right in favour of a St Metopan, at whose tomb a number of miracles were reputed to have been performed. The monks of a neighbouring monastery, however, finding that their shrine was deserted, and their emoluments diminished in consequence of the more fashionable newly made saint, are stated to have brought an action for the loss they had sustained, offering at the

same time to prove St Metopan to have been an impostor, and his miracles a fraud. The Emperor is believed to have been so disgusted with the development of this affair, that he is not again likely to add to the already overloaded Russian-deified calendar.

If unfounded personal abuse of the Emperor of Russia could have sufficed to throw two great countries into war, the press of England would long since have accomplished that most undesirable result. The Czar has, however, no doubt wisely considered that the only refutation which it is worthy of him to give to such calumnies, is to disprove them by the tenor of his life. No person has, perhaps, ever enjoyed better opportunities of appreciating the Emperor's private character than the late Lord Durham, who was honoured with more than an usual measure of his society, and he, ultra-liberal as he was, always expressed the most flattering sentiments in regard to him.

The late Lord Melville used, it is said, in days gone by, to boast it as one of his qualifications for office, that no member of parliament could bear abuse better than he could, and if that be indeed a legitimate claim to high station, the Emperor Nicholas is certainly entitled to plume himself on its possession.

Lord Heytesbury, who as British Ambassador at St Petersburg also enjoyed favourable opportunities of appreciating the Emperor, is reputed to have described him as *La plus belle et le plus honnête homme de l'Empire*; and this opinion is fully confirmed by that of the English residents of Petersburg.

*Il n'est pas tout à fait la plus belle*, said a lady whom we had by accident the pleasure to meet with, looking tenderly across the table to her young and handsome husband, who had related this anecdote to us; and it may, no doubt, be possible that there are greater Adonises in Russia, but the Emperor is, to say the least, sufficiently handsome to give point and propriety to Lord Heytesbury's remark. Marshal Marmont is also reported to have some years since observed, after an audience of his Majesty, that he had been conversing with a civilized Peter the Great. These might, perhaps, have been considered as the flatteries of diplomacy were it not that several persons, far removed from the atmosphere of the Court, sufficiently confirmed the impressions they convey of the Emperor's amiability in all the relations of domestic and social life, while, even in matters of government, when his Majesty does interfere personally, it is generally to redress wrongs, or hasten the tardy awards of justice.

The Emperor and his family love, it appears, occasionally to retire from the



form and pageantry of royalty to a small suburban retreat, where, free from the annoyances of state, they may experimentalize in the happiness afforded by more private life.

At Alexandrowsky a service of china, which had been manufactured for this *sans souci* retreat, was shown to us, bearing a crest illustrative of a chivalrous event in the early lives of their present majesties. It seems that at a Prussian military review, about twenty years ago, a wreath of flowers which adorned the brow of the present Empress chanced to be blown off, and Nicholas, who was in attendance to do the amiable, caught it on the point of his sword, and thus returned it to its fair owner. The wreath was perhaps considered as a *gage d'amour*, and is represented in the china on the sword's point.

The Emperor Nicholas has been placed by fate at the head of a system of government, and line of national policy, which have been handed down from one monarch to another, and it is a question, however much disposed he may feel towards the amelioration of many things, whether his individual will, powerful as it may be, is capable of creating a new system.

His majesty is considered the most energetic European sovereign of the present age, and his reign has given an activity to many things in Russia, which they could not have acquired under the milder sway of his predecessor. Immediately on succeeding to the throne he adopted a system of visiting personally, and unexpectedly, all the various departments of the public service, and is reported to have discovered in them much that required correction. Many of the lower officials were, for instance, found to be worse clad than even Falstaff's ragged regiment, and he in consequence introduced the present system, which compels every *employé* to wear uniform, and thus, perhaps, carries the honour of the public livery too low in the scale of employment.

To purge the service of the fraud, bribery, and corruption of every possible description, which affects alike the civil and the military systems of Russia, from the judge and general down to the lowest myrmidon of the police, is much too herculean a task for one monarch to hope to accomplish.

That this general corruption of principle is not a matter of mere surmise, may be clearly proved by a thousand circumstances, and more particularly by the unblushing assurance with which the officials live in a style unquestionably requiring six times their legitimate incomes; and public employment has thus become rather a license for extortion, than in itself a means of respectable subsistence. The Emperor is fully aware of the existence of this system, but appears to consider its cure as

hopeless, and when it was proposed to him to raise all salaries so as to afford no excuse for bribery, he is reported to have replied that he knew the Russians well, and that though their salaries might be increased, their plunder would not be diminished.

Every suitable opportunity is, however, eagerly embraced to show his appreciation of integrity in public life, and as a recent instance of this feeling, our incorruptible countryman, Admiral Hall, was, in despite of his age and a desire for ease, long compelled to retain the government of an important province of the empire, and on ultimately being permitted to retire, he was loaded with honours, and rewarded with a sinecure appointment.

The first step towards an improvement of the institutions of Russia should no doubt be the education and the emancipation of the people, and these some of the Emperor's admirers believe that he is not unfavourably disposed towards. Be this, however, as it may, whatever Russian monarch shall first adopt education, emancipation, and internal improvement, as the national watch-words, instead of conquest and territorial acquisition, will richly merit to be considered as a civilized Peter the Great. The feeling of the nobility is, however, so strongly in favour of the present system of slavery, that the change would no doubt be one of some danger to any sovereign who might undertake it.

The Russian nobility have of late begun to see the possibility of improving the value of their estates by a better system of agriculture, and importations of the best breeds of English cattle; indeed, a scheme is now organizing for the establishment of a large model farm near St Petersburg, for the purpose of instructing pupils from the more remote provinces. This idea originated with one of the English residents of St Petersburg, and should it be properly carried into effect, our obscure countryman will prove to have been a greater benefactor to Russia than even the greatest of her generals or statesmen. At present no part of Russia can be considered as properly cultivated, and probably not one fourth of her improvable surface is cultivated at all.

#### HERR DÖBLER'S CELEBRATED WINE TRICK.

SEVERAL of our subscribers having expressed a desire to be informed how to conduct this very ingenious and truly philosophic experiment, we are enabled, through the kindness of an old correspondent, this week to gratify their wishes.

The experiment consists in being enabled, from a common wine-bottle, apparently to pour either white or red wine, milk, water, or champagne.

The following chemicals in solution are requisite :—

1. A saturated solution of the sulphocyanate of potass, for port wine.
2. A dilute solution of ditto ditto, for sherry wine.
3. A saturated solution of nitrate of lead, for milk.
4. A saturated solution of per-chloride of iron.
5. A saturated solution of bi-carbonate of potass, for champagne.
6. Sulphuric acid.
7. A clear solution of gum-arabic.

The mode of conducting the trick is so simple that the following instructions will enable even the most bungling manipulator to deceive his more sagacious friends :—

Into a clean and empty wine-bottle pour about three drachms, or teaspoonsful, of No. 4; this, in consequence of the form of the bottle, is not seen, and, therefore, it is still apparently empty.

The water to be employed should be distilled, or clear rain-water, where the other cannot be obtained, will answer; to this add, previously to its being seen by the spectators, about a tablespoonful of the gum-water (No. 7), and a tablespoonful of No. 6. The whole is perfectly colourless, and may be placed in a water-bottle for use.\*

The most important part of the trick is charging the wine glasses; it would be better to have them differently cut, the more readily to distinguish them from each other. The glasses are charged by merely pouring into them the solutions, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and then pouring it back again into the bottle, enough adhering to the sides of the glass to produce the requisite change of colour.

When everything is thus arranged, the water is poured into the green bottle, and on being decanted into the respective glasses, will offer the apparent port, sherry, milk, champagne, or water.† B.

#### OUR LADY OF THE HOLY HEART.

A CENTURY ago a community of young women, under the name of 'Our Lady of Nazareth,' or of the 'Holy Heart,' was formed by a priest living in the parish of St Maclou, in the city of Rouen, named Binet, a man who made himself remarkable as much by his whimsical devotion, as by his ignorance, which was of the grossest kind.

This man, in one of his sermons, indulged in a panegyric upon the Blessed Virgin, and to magnify the efficacy of her intercession with God, told the following story, in the presence of a numerous con-

gregation, among whom were three canons of the cathedral :—

"A certain nun, called Sister Beatrix, had led a life as to outward appearance regular enough to deserve the office of turnkey, which was given her by the Abbess. Her devotion towards the Blessed Virgin ran so high, that she never failed of performing a daily task, which she had prescribed herself, for the honour and worship of that benefactress of mankind. While she was doing the duties of her place, she unluckily listened to some seducing discourse of a young loose nun, and suffered herself to be corrupted by her pernicious counsels. After she had for some time resisted the temptation, she went and cast herself at the feet of the Holy Virgin, saying to her, 'It is now a long time, my good patroness, that I have faithfully served you, and you give no ear to my prayers. My patience is tired, and I am resolved to be gone; here, take my keys.' After this compliment to the Virgin Mary, she quitted the convent, changed her habit, and let herself loose to all manner of dissipation.

"When the young seducer had abandoned her, as is usual in like cases, and ceased to minister to her necessities, she became the most impudent and abandoned of all wantons, and in this woeful course of life continued full fifteen years.

"All this time the mother of God occupied the place of Sister Beatrix in the convent. She assumed her air, stature, voice, countenance, and habit, so that not a soul, either within or without doors, ever perceived the absence of Beatrix.

"At last our female apostate, quite tired of so low and wicked a life, inquired one day of a woman what they said of Sister Beatrix? 'She is a holy girl,' answered the woman, 'whom everybody loves and esteems for her meekness, faithfulness, and constancy in performing her devotions.' The nun, surprised to hear that another Beatrix was got into her place, runs away to the convent to see her. The Blessed Virgin received her with much goodness, reproached her as she deserved, and assured her that nobody had known of her absence, or her disorders; that the community had the same sentiments of esteem and friendship which it had before shown her. It was in recompense of the constant exactness with which she had offered up the prayer, which she vowed to the Virgin. The mother of God added that she herself had discharged her place, and done her work, all the time of her absence; and as she continued to serve her, that God had pardoned all her sins, and that she had no need of penance; in short, that she was sure of sanctification and eternal happiness, provided she persevered in honouring and glorifying her as she had always done."

\* If you intend to drink any of the water before using it, No. 6 may be placed with No. 4 in the wine-bottle.

† In this you of course have an uncharged glass.



*Arms.* Quarterly, first, az. On a fesse, dancettée, ar., between three griffins, passant, wings endorsed, or, as many escallopes gu.; second, az., five cinque-foils, in saltire, ar., for Holroyd; third, erm., on a chief gu. a demi-lion, rampant, issuant, or, for Elwood; fourth, az., on a fesse or, between three swans' heads erased ar. ducally gorged of the second, as many cinque-foils gu., for Baker.

*Crest.* A demi-griffin, segreant, wings endorsed sa., holding between the claws a ducal coronet or.

*Supporters.* Dexter, a lion, regardant, ppr., sinister, a horse bridled, ppr.

*Motto.* "Quem te Deus esse jussit." "*What God commanded thee to be.*"

### THE NOBLE HOUSE OF SHEFFIELD.

THIS ancient family emigrated to Ireland in the reign of Charles the Second. The experiment was somewhat bold, so shortly after the horrible scenes which occurred between the maddened Irish and the English settlers in 1641. For a long time the family had enjoyed wealth and consideration in England. William de Howrode (as the name was originally spelt), had large estates in the county of York, from the thirteenth century. Howrode was the name of a hamlet in that vicinity. Isaac Holroyd, a descendant of William de Holroyde, having settled in Ireland, was succeeded by his only son John Holroyd, Esq., who was born in 1680. His son, Isaac Holroyd, succeeded him, and was in turn succeeded by his only surviving son, John Baker Holroyd.

This gentleman inherited the estates of his mother's family, the Bakers, of Penn. He in consequence assumed that surname before his paternal one. He was advanced to the Peerage of Ireland, January 9th, 1781, by the title of Baron Sheffield of Dunamore, county of Meath, and created, October 19th, 1783, Baron Sheffield of Roscommon, with remainder in default of male to the female issue of his first marriage. His Lordship married thrice: first, in 1767, Abigail, the only daughter of Lewis Way, Esq., by whom he had two daughters; secondly, December 26th, 1794, Lady Lucy Pelham, daughter of Thomas, first Earl of Chichester; and thirdly, January 20th, 1798, Lady Ann North, second daughter of Frederick, second Earl of Guilford, by George Augustus Frederick Charles, the present peer. On the 29th July, 1802, he was enrolled among the peers of the empire as Baron Sheffield of Sheffield, county of York, and advanced to the Viscounty of Pevensey and Earldom of Sheffield in the peerage of Ireland, January

22nd, 1816. His Lordship served the public as President of the Board of Agriculture, as a Lord of Trade, and as a member of the Privy Council. As a writer on political economy he obtained some distinction in the literary world. He died at the age of eighty-six, May, 1821, and was succeeded by the son above-named, who was born March 16th, 1802; came to his title May 30th, 1821, and married, June 6th, 1825, Harriet, eldest daughter of Henry, second Earl of Harewood, by whom he has issue.

### A RIDE TO CHERTSEY.

"Come, now toward Chertsey with your holy load,  
Taken from Paul's to be interred there."

*Richard III.—Act i, Scene 2.*

AMONG the various attractions of railroads, steamboats, and coaches, by which the man of leisure and taste, or the merchant or trader, seek relaxation or health, it is difficult to decide where and how a particular day set apart for the purpose shall be spent. We took another glance at the 'Map of 24 Miles round London,' and seeing that Chertsey was situated on one of those graceful curves for which the noble "river of Thames" is famed, determined to take a place on the coach, as affording better opportunities for "eyeing nature's walks" than either locomotion or steam. The former we consider absolutely wearisome to the pleasure traveller; the latter is certainly agreeable, when accompanied by the cloudless sky and refreshing breeze; but if we go from home to see the haunts of men, and to mingle with their feelings, there is no mode so convenient as that which has lately, as a system, been all but destroyed—the coach and horses.

The pleasant portion of our journey begins at the suspension bridge at Hammer-smith. Here, and especially at high water, the view presents two noble reaches, with



oftentimes a steamer or two ploughing their course towards Richmond and Hampton Court, throwing the swelling waves on the banks, which subside with murmurs, as if offended at the liberty taken with their upward or downward course by a new power. Here the plain is entered upon, which we never quit on this excursion, rich with vegetation and clothed with woods of various degrees of age and beauty. Barnes Church, distinguished by a red brick tower, denoting the Elizabethan age of architecture, is passed on the right. Barnes terrace appears, and again the river comes into view; thence to Mortlake, a locality, as its French name clearly indicates, where once existed a stagnant lake fed by the overflowings of the Thames, but of which in our day no vestiges remain. A constantly winding, or abruptly turning, road, brings us to Sheen, East and West, a suburb of Richmond, although it may not be generally known that what is now the latter place was once called by the former name, having been changed from "Sheen" to "Richmond" by order of Henry VII. The former favourite resorts of "heads who wore crowns" are here approached. Here, in ancient times, was a royal palace, the favourite residence of Edwards I, II, and III, and of Richard II and Henry V; destroyed by fire in 1497, but rebuilt by Henry VII. Henry VIII, and Wolsey resided in this palace. It served as a place of confinement to Elizabeth and her sister Mary.

We are not permitted, on this excursion, to take a survey from that celebrated spot, renowned both in story and song, and illustrated in the favourite ditty—

"On Richmond hill there lives a lass,  
More bright than May-day morn; "

as our route lies under the hill, whence its beauties can best be seen, particularly from Richmond bridge; and here passing again into Middlesex, before entering Twickenham, observe on the right-hand side the house where Louis Philippe, now the greatest monarch of his day, resided in the very humble capacity of a teacher of the French language, and opposite, separated from the road by a high wall, are the grounds of "Orleans House" (a noble mansion fronting the river), the subsequent residence of the King of the French during his exile in England. Passing through Twickenham, which presents an appearance of population and trade, let us remark that here lived the amiable brother of the most active politician of this century, Mr Jones Burdett, but having finished his career, now lies quietly in the church,

"Where the weary are at rest."

His virtues are commemorated by an affectionate eulogium from the pen of Sir Francis Burdett, which, condemning the mean falsehoods of many memorials of the

departed, offers a tribute of merited praise to his friend and brother. This is the classic ground of Pope and Walpole, the house of the latter (Strawberry Hill) is empty, and "to let." The celebrated dwelling of the former has been so modernized and changed that its former glory exists now only in imagination.

Teddington, it is said, is a corruption of the words "Tide-end Town," the Thames here ceasing to be influenced by the action of the sea, and certain it is, whether the given origin of the present name of the village be correct or not, the water here continually flows downward. The view before reaching Teddington, both up and down the river, is remarkably pleasing. We next arrive at Bushy Park: a grand avenue of stately chestnuts and limes present a most appropriate and imposing entrance to Hampton Court. Bushy House is on the right, and from hence to Chertsey, through Hampton, Sunbury, and Shepperton, the road and river vie with each other in their serpentine courses. At the village of Littleton, on the right, is the seat of Col. Wood, the member for Brecon, and on the same side, nearer Chertsey, that of Earl Lucan, at Laleham. The former gentleman, it is said, allows no poor's rate or church rate to be collected in his parish—a pleasing instance of liberality in a "fine old English gentleman."

Beyond Chertsey, invisible from the locality, is St Ann's Hill, where lived the great statesman, Charles James Fox; it is commanding, and beautifully wooded. In the church is a tablet,

"TO THE  
MEMORY OF THE BEST OF HUSBANDS AND  
THE MOST EXCELLENT OF MEN,  
CHARLES JAMES FOX,  
WHO DIED SEPT. 13TH, 1806,  
AND IS BURIED IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY,  
HIS MOST AFFECTIONATE WIFE  
PLACES THIS TABLET."

"A patriot's even course he steered,  
'Mid faction's wildest storms unmoved.  
By all who marked his mind—revered,  
By all who knew his heart—beloved."

His "affectionate wife" enjoyed a long career after the death of her husband, having survived him half a life, namely, 36 years. She is buried in the church-yard, the spot respectably but not ostentatiously marked—

"ELIZABETH BRIDGET FOX,  
DIED 8TH JULY, 1842.  
AGED 92 YEARS."

One "Laurentio Tomsono" occupies an honourable niche in the chancel; he travelled in Sweden, Russia, Denmark, Germany, and France, understood, besides the languages of these countries (as it may be presumed), Hebrew—made a new translation of the testament, and died 4th April, 1608. He must have been an adven-

tureous man who travelled in the north of Europe in those days! But where is the "Abbey" of Chertsey, in which was buried the murdered Henry VI, although his remains were afterwards removed to Windsor? Reader, it is gone! Even the spot where it stood is apocryphal, but not so, we believe, some stones which have been used to repair and strengthen an old brick wall at the bottom of the garden of the Crown Inn. They are a composition of clay and gravel, dark in colour, and certainly very abbey-like, as are also some other chalk stones sufficiently distinguishable from the more modern brick.

Chertsey has a market, is situated in the midst of a corn-district, and has several good inns. If you wish to dine well, in its vicinity, you may try—

"Where the Red Lion staring o'er the way,  
Invites each passing stranger that can pay."

Between Sunbury and Shepperton a small river crosses the road, and must be forded by all vehicles and horsemen. It is dignified with the name of "Sunbury Water-splash"—not inappropriately, by the way, when dashed into by fast-trotting coach-horses—and in Oatlands Park, on the opposite side of the Thames, there is a stone tower of considerable size and height, which, together with the river just named, form a curious illustration of primitive ideas being applied to objects; the latter, 80 or 90 feet high, has no better or grander name applied to it, and suggested by its form, than the "Pepper Box," although it would probably contain within it all the pepper boxes ever manufactured from the days of Adam to this present month of September, 1843.

#### SUPERIORITY OF THE ROYAL BLOOD OF FRANCE.

THE courtesy and friendly feeling which prevailed during the continuance of those gratifying scenes on the other side of the water in which our Queen and the King of the French were the chief actors, with all the accompanying splendour, exhibit the cordiality of humbler life. It would seem as if, on this occasion, kindness and esteem put aside those lofty pretensions which in former days rendered even friendly greetings cold and unconciliating. It perhaps is not generally known that the Bourbons of the old stock claimed to rank above all other royals. To English ears the foundations of this claim will seem ridiculous enough. It was made to rest on some flattery addressed by a priest called St Gregory, a thousand years ago, to King Childebert. He is said to have written to that monarch, that "the excellence of his crown indubitably exalted it as much above all other nations, as the royal dignity raised its possessor above common men." Mat-

thew Paris, the English historian, in 1254, was induced to use the words: "Dominus Rex Francorum, qui terrestrium Rex Regum est," and to add, that "the dignity of the King of France was superior to that of all other monarchs." Such a declaration, coming from an English writer, was supposed to settle the question beyond dispute.

The other authorities relied on will be deemed rather curious than important. Our King Henry V is referred to, as having decided the point. When he entered Paris with King Charles VI, in 1420, "Les deux Rois," says Warin, "moult noblement de front, l'un d'auprès l'autre, le Roi de France au dextre côté; et après eux étaient les Ducs de Clarans et de Belfort, freres du Roi d'Angleterre, et à l'autre côté de la rue, a la main senestre, chevauchoit Philippe-le-Bon, Duc de Bourgoyne, et après lui étaient les Chevaliers et les Ecuers de son Hotel."—"The two Kings rode gallantly side by side in front, the King of France taking the right hand; and after them came the Dukes of Clarence and Bedford, brothers to the King of England, and on the other side of the street, on the left hand, Philip le Bon, Duke of Burgundy, and after him came the gentlemen and pages of his household." That the Duke of Burgundy, who was neither son nor grandson of France, but only related to the King by the third degree, should have taken his place by the side of the brothers of the King of England, was viewed by the French royals as a recognition of the superiority of the Princes of the blood of France, over all of the same high degree elsewhere.

Their grandeur is also supported by a speech given to the Emperor Maximilian in Jerome Bignon's work, 'De l'Excellence des Rois et Royaume de France.' "If it were possible," said that courteous, but not over-pious monarch, "that I could be God, I should wish my eldest son to be God after me, and my son to be King of France."

The superiority of the crown of France, it is urged, has been acknowledged in all ages. It was only to the ambassadors of the imperial crown that precedence was allowed. Personally, the Kings of France have claimed from the Emperors to be treated as equals. Charles V gave way to Francis I, in 1521, at the conference of Calais. More commonly the Kings of France and the Emperors have walked side by side, and if ever the former have given way, it has always been an act of deference and courtesy, never of duty or necessity.

The French love glory, and many of them are pleased to identify glory with the successful enforcement of such high-flying claims as have been described. Louis XIV, it is exultingly proclaimed, would sooner

have risked the loss of his kingdom than have submitted to the attempts made at Rome and London by the Spanish ambassadors, to obtain precedence over those of France. By the resistance which he opposed to adverse pretensions, he obtained concessions, which good Frenchmen are expected to regard "as a perpetual monument of the superiority of the Kings of France over the other sovereigns of Europe!"

One very ancient instance is proudly quoted, of deference shown to the Royal family of France, in the interview which took place between the Emperor Charles IV and Charles V of France, in 1278. They met between St Denis and Paris, and "afterwards," writes Theodore Godefroy, "came the Dukes of Berry and Burgundy, and between them, in the middle, was the Duke of Brabant, brother to the Emperor and uncle to the King." Upon that Godefroy remarks, "In those times, when three persons walked abreast, he who was at the right hand had the place of honour, and not the person in the middle. It is seen that the Duke de Berry, brother to the King of France, in this procession, and in all other acts, preceded the Duke of Brabant, brother and grandson of two emperors; and the reason of this," he adds, "is that the Imperial dignity being only precarious and elective, and not hereditary in one family, the Duke of Brabant had not the claim of succession to the Imperial throne, which the Duke of Berry had to the French."

To "men remote from power," to plain Englishmen, pretensions like those advanced by the princes of a neighbouring country to superiority over all their fellows, can hardly be contemplated with gravity. In France the matter is differently viewed, and many sensible men are prepared to enter upon their solemn vindication. That far-famed piece of eloquence, the funeral oration delivered by Bossuet over the remains of the great Condé, was admired for the fervent panegyric it contained on the glorious stand made by the illustrious deceased for etiquette. The facts were these:—Out of favour with the King, and an exile from his country, when journeying to Brussels, the Prince was seized with a fever, and unable to proceed beyond Namur. While he was labouring under severe indisposition, deputies were sent to him to prevail on the Prince to yield precedence to the Archduke Leopold, then governor of the Netherlands. To this he would not listen, but haughtily replied, "That he was a prince of the blood royal of France, and that therefore the utmost he could grant, though the Archduke was the son and brother of emperors, was to treat that Prince as an equal; they might act as they

pleased, but if they did not accept his proposal in twenty-four hours, he would quit Namur and the Low Countries, preferring to run any hazard rather than subject his dignity to the least degradation." The Courts of Vienna and Madrid gave way. His conduct in thus maintaining "the claims of a Prince of France and of the first house in the universe," was made the theme of panegyric in the church of Notre Dame, by a venerable and aged man, who in the course of his speech touchingly referred to the announcement made by his silver locks and failing voice; that he must shortly give elsewhere an account of his ministry here. The man of religion, the meek follower of Him who "was led like a lamb to the slaughter," saw in such an effort of human arrogance only that which must shed lustre on the name of Condé. He enlarged on the grateful topic as energetically as if by this act the Prince had saved his country. The eloquence of the preacher, though it could not "soothe the dull cold ear of death," won the undivided admiration of the Court, and all who listened to it, and still thousands are ready to maintain that all the royalty of the rest of Europe ought to bow to that of France, as the sheaves of his brethren did to the sheaf of Joseph. The recent meetings of the sovereigns of England and France, and the unaffected kindly attentions reciprocated, will perhaps abate this overflowing dignity, and cause it to give place to something better entitled to our esteem and admiration.

#### PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ANNE BOLEYN.

AFTER the death of her mother, in 1512, Anne resided at Hever with a French governess named Simonette, who taught her music and needle-work. "Besides all the usual branches of virtuous instruction, they gave her teachers in playing on musical instruments, singing, and dancing, inasmuch that when she composed her hands to play and her voice to sing, it was joined with that sweetness of countenance that three harmonies concurred; likewise when she danced, her rare proportions varied themselves into all the graces that belong either to rest or motion." When Anne returned to England from France, whither she had gone in the suite of Mary the King's youngest sister, who had been forced to marry Louis XII, she took up her residence at Hever, and her first meeting with the King after her return was in the garden surrounding the castle. To what good account she turned this early education in after times, a contemporary biographer shall tell:—"She possessed a great talent for poetry, and when she sung, like a second Orpheus, she would have

made bears and wolves attentive. She likewise danced the English dances, leaping and jumping with infinite grace and agility. Moreover, she invented many new figures and steps which are yet known by her name or by those of the gallant partners with whom she danced. She was well skilled in all games fashionable at courts. Besides singing like a syren, accompanying herself on the lute, she harped better than king David, and handled cleverly both lute and rebec (a small violin). She dressed with marvellous taste, and devised new modes, which were followed by the fairest ladies of the French court, but none wore them with her gracefulness, in which she rivalled Venus." (Count Chateaubriand's MS.)—Henry told Wolsey, "he had been discoursing with a young lady who had the wit of an angel, and was worthy of a crown." Wolsey answered, "it is sufficient if your majesty finds her worthy of your love." Henry replied, "that he feared she would never condescend in that way." "Great princes," rejoined Wolsey, "if they choose to play the lover, have that in their power which would mollify a heart of steel." Two sketches of her portrait, drawn by opposite partisans of her cause, will not be inappropriate to a visit to this spot, Anne's chief residence. Saunders, who was not likely to be over flattering, describes her as "tall, slender, with an oval face, black hair, and a complexion inclining to sallow; one of her upper teeth projected a little. She appeared, at times, to suffer from asthma. On her left hand a sixth finger might be perceived. On her throat there was a protuberance, which Chateaubriand describes as a disagreeable large mole, resembling a strawberry; this she carefully covered with an ornamental collar-band, a fashion which was blindly imitated by the rest of the maids of honour, though they had never before thought of wearing anything of the kind. Her face and figure were, in other respects, symmetrical: beauty and sprightliness sat on her lips; in readiness of repartee, skill in the dance, and in playing on the lute, she was unsurpassed." The next sketch is from the life of Anne, supposed to have been written by George Wyatt, the sixth son of Sir Thomas Wyatt, executed for rebellion in Mary's reign, who died at Bexley, in Kent, in the year 1624: "In this noble imp, the graces of Nature, adorned by gracious education, seemed, even at the first, to have promised bliss unto her in after times. She was taken at that time to have a beauty, not so *whitely* as clear and fresh above all we may esteem, which appeared much more excellent by her favour passing sweet and cheerful, and was enhanced by her noble presence of shape and fashion, representing both mildness and majesty, more than can be expressed. There was found, indeed,

upon the side of her nail, upon one of her fingers, some little show of a nail, which yet was so small, by the report of those that have seen her, as the workmaster seemed to leave it an occasion of greater grace to her hand, which, with the tip of one of her other fingers, might be, and was usually by her, hidden without the least blemish to it. Likewise, there were said to be upon some parts of her body certain small moles, incident to the clearest complexions."—*Athenæum*.

#### HISTORY AND ANECDOTES OF THE DOG.

AN article in the last 'Quarterly' on Blaze's '*Histoire du Chien chez tous les Peuples du Monde*,' gives, from various sources, as well as from the work under review, a series of facts which are highly interesting. A condensed view of them will not fail to gratify most readers.

The dog among the Hebrews, as he was not cloven footed, and did not chew the cud, was deemed an unclean animal, and consequently he was denied the honour of being sacrificed. That distinction, however, was bestowed upon him by idolaters. The Romans sacrificed him to their gods; and he was whipped annually, and then impaled by that enlightened people, because his ancestors had slept when the Gauls attempted to seize on the Capitol.

The dog was eaten by the Greeks, and he is constantly fattened on vegetables, and used as food in China now. Dog's flesh, though prohibited, is also regularly eaten in Paris. Blaze has tasted it, and speaks in its favour: Buffon thought it very disagreeable. In Lapland dogs are killed for their skins, and in many countries it is found necessary to destroy them on account of their numbers, which render them a nuisance.

In every town in France, it is stated by M. Blaze, persons are employed to collect dogs for the cruel purpose of being dissected alive.

Black dogs have been supposed to be the agents of the devil. Sometimes, however, these creatures, we are told, have manifested a great regard for piety. Dogs are said to have refused food thrown to them by the assassins of Thomas à Becket. In the like manner they, on another occasion, indicated their horror of the sinful conduct of a young man who had married his cousin, without having first obtained a dispensation from the Pope, and refused to touch any portion of the wedding feast. Wonderful stories are recounted of the keen scent of these animals. Robert Boyle tells of a dog who tracked a servant several miles on a public road to the house where he lodged, in the market place of a town. It was by such means that the Duke

of Monmouth was discovered concealed in a ditch after the battle of Sedgemoor.

Dogs were employed in the Roman armies. Six hundred dogs were sent by Queen Elizabeth with the army of Essex to Ireland; and dogs were of great service to the Spaniards opposed to the Indians on their first discovery of America. In 1775 they were about to be used against the Maroons in Jamaica, but the latter, hearing of their approach, surrendered, and rendered having recourse to such means unnecessary.

In Persia dogs served for executioners, and culprits doomed to die were by them torn to pieces.

The Siberian dogs, though cruelly treated, are let loose in the summer, but voluntarily return to resume their sledging labours in the winter. In a wild state they form themselves into packs and hunt the boar and the buffalo, and sometimes the tiger and the lion. In the time of Henry VII a dog attacked a lion, and the king caused him to be hanged for his presumption. Colonel Hamilton saw a bull-dog seize a bison by the nose and hold him by it till he was crushed to death. The terrier will engage animals twenty times his own size, and die without a groan. According to circumstances the habits of the dog are formed. On the banks of the Nile, to escape the crocodile, he will continue running while he drinks. At New Orleans he barks to attract the alligator's notice, and having drawn them to one spot, sets off at full speed, and crosses the water at a distant point. An Esquimaux dog, brought to this country, was accustomed to strew food round him, and then feign to sleep, in order to allure fowls and rats, which he added to his store.

Dogs sometimes combine their efforts. Two hunted by stealth. One started the hare, and the other, concealed behind a fence, pounced upon her as she fled. A pointer and a greyhound joined in the same way; the pointer found the game, and the greyhound used his speed to catch it. Suspicion falling on the pointer, a chain was attached to him to impede his movements, but it was discovered that he still enabled the greyhound to hunt as before; the latter, when accompanying him, carrying the chain in his mouth, till it became his turn to take up the chase.

Dogs have been used at various periods as beasts of draught. In Newfoundland, heavy loads of wood and provisions are obtained by their exertions. As a smuggler, the dog shows great sagacity. He scents the custom-house officer who is on the watch for him, and attacks him or manœuvres to escape his observation. When he reaches his destination he will not show himself till he has first ascertained that the coast is clear.

Still more wonderful are the accounts given of the colly, or shepherd's dog. He seems to understand not only his master's words, but his secret wishes. He will collect the scattered flock, fetch up those that may be left behind, and select one or more that may be wanted from a multitude. A sheep-stealer used to avail himself of the tact of a dog, which would fetch any sheep pointed out to him in the course of the day, and bring it to his master at night.

A dog has been known to seize the bridle of a runaway horse, and hold it till he was secured. In France, a short time ago, a stable caught fire, and the animals within, from being terrified, would not move. A dog rushed in, and by barking and biting twice succeeded in bringing out a portion of them, and returned a third time to complete his task, when those remaining, which were comparatively few, had perished from the progress of the flames.

As a sheep-stealer the cunning of the dog has been sometimes very conspicuous. Sir Thomas Wilde knew of a case in which a dog would slip off his collar, when going on a nocturnal expedition, and afterwards resume it. In a similar case a dog is known to have carefully washed his jaws after the night's slaughter, before he returned to his home; and one dog continued to war on the sheep of a particular district for several months, taking his post on an eminence from which he could see an approaching enemy. On this, his "watch tower," he was ultimately shot.

In Egypt the dogs are numerous. They form associations, and confine themselves to particular districts, and any canine adventurer who intrudes into one not his own, is likely to be torn to pieces.

In many cases, by the sagacity, memory, and determined courage of dogs, thieves and murderers have been brought to condign punishment. Murder has been prevented by the dog, who seemed to penetrate the design of the intended assassin, and applied his energies to frustrate the attempt. In France the waggoner trusts the reins to his canine assistant while he lingers in the cabaret. A lady in Bath found her road blockaded by a strange mastiff, who would not allow her to advance till she had turned back to a spot on which she had dropped a shawl, which, having recovered, he immediately left her.

Dogs have been taught to defend property, to recover it after it had been stolen, and to steal it. His skill as a beggar is great. M. Blaze saw one who had belonged to a blind man, after his master's death, hold up a tin and beg on his own account; a penny being given to him, he immediately repaired "to a baker's shop, and purchased a roll."

The Newfoundland dog will snatch any one from the water. In the cause of his



master a dog will conquer his dread of fear. At Libourne, in France, in 1835, a townsman gave away an old suit of clothes to be burned as an effigy. His dog, supposing it was his master being maltreated, attempted repeatedly to snatch him away, and would not desist from the attempt till called off by the owner he thought he saw in peril. A dog belonging to a magistrate, imprisoned at the time of the French Revolution, went to his master's prison every day, being sent out at night, and returning in the morning. He followed him to the grave, watched near it for three months, and at last died scratching up the earth, apparently striving to reach his master. A shepherd told his dog to conduct M. Blaze to a place which he named, and the creature obeyed the command. One belonging to the brother of Sir Thomas Wilde runs away constantly on Saturday night, and returns on Monday morning. He thus temporarily absents himself to avoid being chained up on the intervening day. A dog, brought up with a Catholic, acquired a habit of voluntarily abstaining from meat on a Friday. A bull-dog, accustomed to be present at family prayers, always prepared to move when the last commenced. It has often been found that dogs possess an instinct which enables them to find their way by a road they have never travelled. A dog sent to Scotland by sea found his way back to London by land. A shoeblack's dog possessed himself of the useful art of soling the shoes of those who passed, that they might become his owner's clients. All these instances are given to show the intelligence, and, for the most part, the noble and attached nature of the animal. As the friend of man it has a claim on our kindness and esteem. How great, how invincible the feeling, to touch on one other point, manifested by the female for her young, is sufficiently commemorated by Addison in the 'Spectator':—"A person," he says, "who was well skilled in dissections, opened a bitch, and as she lay in the most exquisite tortures, offered her one of her young puppies, which she immediately fell a licking, and for the time seemed insensible of her own pain. On the removal she kept her eye fixed on it, and began a wailing sort of cry, which seemed rather to proceed from the loss of her young one than the sense of her own torments."—"The horrible barbarity of this experiment," adds the Quarterly Reviewer, "almost overpowers our admiration of the maternal love, and we blush to contrast the cruelty of the man with the invincible affection of the dog." M. Blaze is most earnest in his admiration of the animal whose history he has applied himself to write, and takes for his motto the words of Gaston Phœbus, declaring him to be "the most noble, the

most reasonable, and most knowing beast that God ever made."

ON THE DEATH OF A FOOL, SHOT THROUGH  
THE HEAD IN A DUEL.

HERE lies poor Tommy; Nature at his end  
Thought 'twas but right for once to stand his  
friend;  
For in the shades below he now can say,  
At least there's something in my head this  
day!

*From the Kensingtonian.*

Miscellaneous.

HOTTENTOT WIVES, SONS, AND MOTHERS.—The Hottentot females are at once the nastiest and most ill-used of women. The priest, when he marries them, blesses them, saying—"May you live happy, and year-a-year bear a son, who may live to be a good hunter and a great warrior." It is needless to say that this wish is not always gratified. So long as her husband exists, the Hottentot wife is the slave and drudge of the hut, and on her devolves the task of providing for the subsistence of the family, while the husband eats, drinks, smokes, and sleeps. When the Hottentot wife becomes a widow, she must continue so for life, unless she chooses to purchase a husband at a price which, according to our notions, is something more than the delights of a wife in Hottentot matrimony would warrant. She must consent to lose a joint of one of her fingers; and this process must be repeated as often as, being left a widow, she wishes again to contract matrimony. The Hottentot son, on coming of age, is presented with a cudgel, with which he is commanded to beat his mother, and this request is very dutifully complied with by the son, in order to manifest his strength and ability, "just as some youths are prone to evince their manhood by smoking cigars and swearing profanely." It is strange that the mother, though often fainting under the cruel beatings of the son whom she has nursed at her bosom, does not in the least reproach him, but admires his manliness and dexterity in proportion to the severity of the chastisement.

A WATER FIGHT.—I likewise saw at Ceylon (says Colonel Campbell) what the people call a water fight, between two competitors for a dark-eyed maid: one of the lovers, the challenger, being highly exasperated by jealousy. They stood up to their knees in the lake, opposite each other; and, with their hands, constantly dashed the water, in a curious and expert manner, into each other's faces. I saw the combatants thus—I can scarcely say hotly engaged, about nine in the morning; and at three in the afternoon they were still hard at work, and the battle was then doubtful;

for, according to established rule, whichever of the two warriors, no matter what may be the pretence or cause, stops first, if it be only for a moment, dashing water at his adversary, is considered to be vanquished. Hundreds of people were looking on, apparently deeply interested in the result; as he who is thus overcome, as they assured me, is never known again to aspire to the hand of the lady.

**SIR CHARLES SEDLEY'S GRATITUDE.**—King James made the daughter of Sir Charles Sedley Countess of Dorchester. Of the services rendered by this lady to procure the honour little need be said, but we are told in reference to them, that "Sedley cursed the favour that pleased a king." Sir Charles, however, did not lose his vivacity with his daughter. It is told of him, on good authority, that being asked by a friend what he had been about, as he came out of the House of Commons, the day on which the Prince and the Princess of Orange were voted King and Queen of these realms, he answered that he had been doing on act of gratitude. "What's that?" says his friend. "Why," says he, "King James made my daughter a countess, and I have been making his a queen."

### The Gathrux.

**Duke of Bronte.**—His Majesty of Sicily showed a classical fancy in selecting this title for Nelson. The Dukedom of Bronte is situated at the foot of Mount Etna, and takes its name from one, who, like the Admiral, had but a single eye,—Brontis, the Cyclop.

**Persian Custom.**—When the Persian army were about to take the field on the occasion of a battle, the forces passed in review before their commander, each man throwing down an arrow before the general's tent. These arrows were collected, and preserved till the end of the campaign, when the soldiers again passed muster, each resuming an arrow. The remaining ones were then counted, and thus the Persians ascertained the number of their dead.—*Herodotus.*

**China.**—When our countrymen showed the Chinese a map of the earth, they inquired for China; and on finding that it only occupied a moderate space, could not contain their derision. They thought it was the main territory, in the middle of the earth, the apple of the world's eye.

**The Jews.**—When a whole people devote themselves to one great pursuit, one single art, they open sources of invention, they reach to a noble perfection. Unhappily for the Hebrews, that great pursuit, that single art, was the commerce of money; and to render fortunes invisible, their genius produced the wonderful invention of bills of exchange; an object, like the art

of printing, become too familiar to be admired. The miracle has ceased, and its utility only remains, yet both are sources of civilization, and connect together the whole universe.—*Genius of Judaism.*

**Duchess of Gordon.**—Lady Maxwell's daughters were the wildest romps imaginable. An old gentleman, who was their relation, told us that the first time he saw these beautiful girls was in the Hight, where Miss Lane, afterwards Duchess of Gordon, was riding on a sow, which Miss Eglintoun thumped lustily behind with a stick.—*Chambers's Traditions of Edinburgh.*

**A Princess defeated by a Brewer.**—In the year 1758 the Princess Amelia, daughter of George the Second, who was ranger of Richmond Park, thought fit to exclude the public from this favourite place; but an action was brought against her by Mr John Lewis, a brewer, and inhabitant of Richmond, which he gained, and the Princess was forced to knock down her barriers. The public right has never since been disputed, and the memory of the patriotic brewer is still highly esteemed in the neighbourhood.

**Malcolm the Third,** King of Scotland, invaded the English borders, and so reduced the Castle of Alnwick, that the besieged were obliged to surrender. They only requested that the king would receive the keys in person. They were brought by one Robert de Mowbray, Earl of Northumberland, who, standing within the walls, extended them on the point of a lance, with which, on the king advancing to take them, he pierced the king's eye. For this gallant exploit he received the name of Pierce-eye, since corrupted to Percy, and which still continues to be the family name of the Dukes of Northumberland.—*Croole Anecdote.*

**Ancient Burials.**—The ancient Romans, who in many respects might set an example to more civilized nations, took such precautions to insure the healthiness of the city, that they would not allow any one to be interred within its precincts. One of the laws of the celebrated code, called "The Twelve Tables," expressly forbids it:—"Let not any be buried in the city." (*"In urbe neve sepelito."*) To further the fulfilment of this law, a place at some distance from the city was set apart for the interment of the dead. Such places were esteemed sacred, and hence called the "glebe." It is from this circumstance that the name is yet applied to lands belonging to the church.

**Beggars on Horseback.**—We generally suppose we are speaking of something extravagantly ridiculous, when we talk of "a beggar on horseback." In South America one is often seen; horses cost next to nothing; charitable people frequently live at a considerable distance from each other,

so that a beggar cannot afford to lose the time which it would consume to wait upon them on foot. The necessity of his being an equestrian is understood, and it is not considered to bar his claim to assistance.

*Utility of a Dead Bishop.*—Montaigne writes,—“They say at Augusta that they are free, not from mice, but from the large rats which infest every other part of Germany, and attribute this exemption to one of their bishops, who lies buried here; even the earth round his tomb, they say, has the power of expelling these vermin wherever it is carried, and they sell little bits of it, about the size of a nut, for this purpose.”

*Rome.*—One of the great advantages of Rome is, that it is one of the least exclusive cities in the world; a place where foreigners at once feel themselves the most at home; in fact, Rome is, by its very nature, the city of strangers. Its sovereign is sovereign also over entire Christendom; his jurisdiction generally subjects to his authority all Christians, wheresoever they are, even in their homes in the most distant countries, as much as in Rome itself.—*Montaigne.*

*A Widow's Fate.*—The people of Tanna sometimes bury their dead in shallow graves, sometimes tie a stone to them and sink them in the sea. At Anatom, the widow is tied, alive, to the dead body of her husband, and sunk together with it in the sea.

*Food of the Poorer Chinese.*—The wealthy among the Chinese are much addicted to gastronomic pleasures, and are as delicate in their tastes as any other epicures; but pinching poverty makes the mass as little fastidious as can well be conceived. They make little use of beef or mutton, owing to the scarcity of pasturage. Of animal food, the most universal is pork. Their maxim is, “The scholar forsakes not his books, nor the poor man his pig.” Immense quantities of fish are consumed. Ducks are reared in large numbers, and wild fowl, of various species, are abundant. The flesh of dogs, cats, rats, and mice, enters into the bill of fare of the Chinese poor. The larvæ of the sphinx-moth, and a grub bred in the sugar-cane, are much relished, as also sharks' fins, the flesh of wild horses, the sea-slug, and a soup made of a species of birds' nests. At an imperial feast, given to the last British embassy, a soup concocted of mares' milk and blood was among the dishes. The horse flesh and mares' milk are confined to the Tartars; the birds' nests used only at ceremonies, and the sea-slug but seldom.

*The Statutes of Eltham.*—On the Sandhills near Hever Castle, according to tradition, watchmen were stationed to announce, by sound of bugle, the approach of the lusty and Royal suitor to Anne Boleyn,

galloping from Eltham and Greenwich. It was with reference, probably, to his excursions hither, which court babblers might disclose to partisans of the injured and neglected Catherine, that Majesty desired its roivings might be unseen. The “Statutes of Eltham,” as they are called, enacted that the “officers of his privy chamber shall be loving together, keeping secret everything said or done, leaving hearkening or inquiring where the King is, or goes, be it early or late, without grudging, mumbling, or talking of the King's pastime, late or early going to bed, or any other matter.”

*A Pious Pope.*—Menzel says,—“As Pope John XXIII was crossing the Alps, his carriage happening to be overturned in the snow, he cursed in the Devil's name, to the great edification of the pious peasants of Arlberg.”

—The Rev. Paul Hamilton, on receiving the presentation to the church and parish of Broughton, near Edinburgh, preached a farewell sermon to the ladies of Ayr; and not a little to the surprise of his fair auditory, gave out his text,—“And they fell upon Paul's neck and kissed him!”

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

“X. Y.”—To see Crystals formed:—Take an ounce of glaucous salts, and pour upon it two ounces of boiling water. Keep it stirred for some time, and while it is still very hot, put it into a vial, and cork it immediately, perfectly air-tight. When it is cold no crystals will appear, but immediately on the removal of the cork they will be seen to form: this shows that atmospheric air is necessary to the formation of crystals. If the bulb of a thermometer be placed in the liquid it will rise, which proves that caloric is given off in the act of crystallization.

“Nauticus.”—We cannot say what is the size of the anchor of the large steam ship or her screw-propeller: we can only say that some first-rates have an anchor weighing above 108 cwt., which is 5 tons 8 cwt. Perhaps some of our readers will answer this question for our correspondent.

“George Harris.”—The so-called instantaneous solution for Daguerrotype plates is, we believe, a mixture of the chlorides of iodine and bromine, and may be applied in the same manner as the common iodine.

“The wooden boards as the porous diaphragm of the electrotype apparatus” are made of lime tree, about the one-sixteenth of an inch in thickness. Before using they must be soaked in dilute sulphuric acid for a day or two.

We are gratified by the approbation of “E. A. A.” but think, if he refers to the passage he has noticed again, he will not find any ambiguity in it.

In reply to the question respecting Charles VI, we would say that unhappy monarch did not merely lose his reason once or twice, but after the two first shocks, with some occasional intervals of reason, he was deranged for the rest of his life.

“A. J.” “A Friend,” and “Fiat,” cannot appear. We shall be happy to oblige “An Old Subscriber,” but it must partly depend upon the engraver whether it can be done so soon. If he can furnish any authentic facts of interest connected with the subject of his letter, they will be attended to.

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